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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Reverend Ronald S. Escalante, Good Shepherd Catholic Church, Alexandria, Virginia, offered the following prayer:

Almighty and ever-living God, You have revealed Your glory to all nations. Through You authority is rightly administered, laws are enacted, and judgment is decreed.

Let the light of Your divine power and wisdom guide the deliberations of Congress, and shine forth in all the proceedings and laws framed for our rule and government. They seek to preserve peace, promote national happiness, and continue to bring us the blessings of liberty and equality.

We likewise commend to Your unbounded mercy all the citizens of the United States, that we may be blessed in the knowledge and sanctified in the observance of Your holy law. And after enjoying the blessings of this life, may we be admitted to those which are eternal.

We pray to You, who are Lord and God, forever and ever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1533. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize and strengthen the health centers program and the National Health Service Corps, and to establish the Healthy Communities Access Program, which will help coordinate services for the uninsured and underinsured, and for other purposes.

WELCOMING REVEREND RONALD S. ESCALANTE, ASSOCIATE PASTOR, GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC CHURCH, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

(Mr. MORAN of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to just say a word about the priest who gave our invocation today. Father Escalante was born in the Philippines. He has his Masters in Divinity from Mount St. Mary's College and Seminary in Maryland. He has been the

Associate Pastor of Good Shepherd Catholic Church for the last 4 years.

Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Mount Vernon, Virginia, has been particularly affected by the events of 9/11. Three of their families lost loved ones, as well as most recently Corporal Matthew Commons was killed in a firefight in Afghanistan while on a mission to rescue a Navy Seal. So that parish has been particularly determined to bring an end to hostility around the world through God's word.

Father Escalante has played an important role in uniting that parish and helping them to get over their grief. We thank him for delivering our invocation this morning.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain ten 1-minute speeches on each side.

COMMENDING WAL-MART FOR PROVIDING AID TO THOSE AFFECTED BY SEPTEMBER 11 TRAGEDY

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Wal-Mart for its participation in Vital Voices, an organization which assists Afghan women and children. Wal-Mart is supporting Vital Voices' efforts to provide aid to enable Afghan women to return to work and Afghan girls to return to school.

Wal-Mart's donation is part of a larger company effort to provide aid to those who are affected by the September 11 tragedy. Since September 11, Wal-Mart and Sam's Club associates

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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